

VZCZCXRO3922
OO RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHPW RUEHROV RUEHSR
DE RUEHRL #0909 1921512
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 101512Z JUL 08
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1629
INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0547
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 9105
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 1128
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 9671
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 1283
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1579
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 0256
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0608
RUEHRL/USDAO BERLIN GE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 000909

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 07/09/2018

TAGS: [IO](#) [NATO](#) [PREL](#) [AF](#) [GM](#)

SUBJECT: GERMANY NEEDS MORE INFO ON PURPOSE AND DEPLOYMENT
BEFORE IT CAN SUPPORT AN INCREASED ANA

REF: STATE 71479

Classified By: DCM JOHN KOENIG. REASONS: 1.4 (B) AND (D).

¶1. (C) PolOff delivered reftel points to Karin Marschall, desk officer for the Defense and Security Policy Division at the German MFA on July 10. Marschall expressed appreciation for the points, but noted that Germany does not yet have an official response due to outstanding questions concerning the purpose and deployment of additional troops. Marschall also noted that she understands the USG was previously aware of, and possibly involved with, the negotiations within the GoA to increase the size of the ANA while other allies were "left in the dark."

¶2. (C) Marschall noted that Germany would not be able to support an increase in the size of the ANA simply because "the Afghan government wants more troops." While recognizing Afghanistan's sovereign right to manage the size of its army as it sees fit, Marschall requested more information as to why the Afghan government would like an increased ANA, for what purposes the additional troops would be used, and how the troops would be distributed throughout the country.

¶3. (C) Marschall also asked about the responses of other allies to the paper and PolOff reported that to date the responses had been generally favorable. While not willing to commit herself, Marschall did note that there may be good reasons behind an increase, but that the currently available information is too vague for her to give an official response. She noted that the Working Group of the JCMB will have to look closely at this proposal and that the international community must work closely with the GoA in coming to "a common understanding about the overarching aims" of the potential ANA enlargement.

¶4. (U) Embassy reps will follow up with MOD officials in the coming days and report any substantive results septel.
TIMKEN JR